

**TOWN OF SOUTH BETHANY
TOWN COUNCIL WORKSHOP MINUTES
DECEMBER 16, 2021
3:00 P.M.**

Meeting Called to Order

Mayor Saxton called the December 16, 2021 Town Council Workshop Meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

Announcement of Attendance and Absences

In attendance were Mayor Saxton, Councilmembers Derek Abbott, Randall Bartholomew, Sue Callaway, Edie Dondero, Dick Oliver, and Tim Shaw, Town Manager Maureen Hartman, Administrative Specialist Janet Powell, Finance Director Renee McDorman, and Code Enforcement Officer Joseph Hinks. Public attendance 4. Virtual attendance 7.

Public Comment

Bob Shields, 39 Seaside Drive, and a member of the Bicycle & Pedestrian Safety Ad-hoc Committee, strongly recommends Council reduce the speed limit in Town, improve more signage to educate the public on walking, and educate the public regarding the crosswalks on Route One.

Nancy Maher, 30 S Anchorage Drive questioned the status on considering additional lighting on South Anchorage.

Betty Bowman, 37 S Anchorage Drive expressed concern regarding a letter she received from the Town regarding violation of the Town Right-of-Way Specification Code.

Christine Keefe, 6 N 3rd Street, cautioned on Investment Policy Statement #7.2 regarding long-term investments yielding higher stating the money is taxpayer's money and if investments yield low the Town will have to raise taxes.

Discussion of South Anchorage streetlights

Town Manager Hartman provided information from Delmarva Power & Light, stating standard cobra head lights can be installed on existing poles on South Anchorage and LED lights work best with the cobra lights. Jim Smith from Delmarva Power virtually participated in the discussion and noted there is only one light on South Anchorage, yet sixteen poles exist, so there is opportunity to place additional lights on the existing poles. Council discussed where to place additional lights and mentioned concerns regarding 60% of property owners that stated they do not want additional lighting. Mayor Saxton proposed that Town Manager Hartman create a South Anchorage additional lighting survey to be mailed to all South Anchorage property owners, then Council will review the results.

Discussion of public input regarding the Right-of-Way use received at the December 10, 2021, Town Council meeting

Mayor Saxton explained the goal of the Town Right-of-Way Specification Code letter was to provide safety to pedestrians and bicyclists utilizing the right-of-way where trash structures and driveway chains have been placed. Upon discussion, Mayor Saxton recommended Councilman Shaw and Town Manager Hartman submit a letter to the 77 property owners stating that the Town will tolerate trash structures in the Town Right-of-Way, but if the Town needs to use said Right-of-Way, the property owner will be notified to remove the structure.

Councilman Abbott left the meeting at 4:42 p.m. due to another commitment.

Review and possible action to accept the updated Budget and Finance Committee Mission Statement, Investment Policy, Capital Asset Replacement and Maintenance (ARM) Fund, and the Budgetary Guidelines

Councilman Bartholomew reviewed the updates regarding minimal changes and the addition of Investment Policy Statement Section 7.2 whereas the Council Treasurer, Town Manager, Finance Director and the Budget and Finance Committee may make recommendations to the Town Council for investments yielding higher returns. Upon discussion and concerns of the addition of Section 7.2, Mayor Saxton suggested the Budget and Finance Committee rewrite and resubmit Section 7.2 to Council and, if necessary, send to the Town Solicitor for review. Motion by Councilman Shaw, seconded by Councilwoman Dondero to accept the updated Budget and Finance Committee Mission Statement, Capital Asset Replacement and Maintenance (ARM) Fund, and the Budgetary Guidelines. Motion carried 6-0.

Discussion of Bicycle & Pedestrian Safety Ad-hoc Committee recommendations

Councilwoman Dondero presented the B&PS Ad-hoc Committee recommendations to Council. Recommendations include installing pedestrian warning signs at RRFBs on Coastal Highway, improve and design pedestrian directional stencils and signs advising pedestrians to walk facing traffic and cyclist to ride with the flow of traffic, and lower the speed limit on all Town roads (excluding Coastal Highway and Kent Avenue) to 15 mph.

Mayor Saxton thanked the Town staff, Public Works, Police and Town Council for all their hard work during the Covid pandemic, maintaining a healthy budget and keeping the Town safe throughout the year.

Adjournment

Motion by Councilman Shaw, seconded by Councilman Bartholomew, to adjourn the December 16, 2021 Town Council Workshop at 4:56 p.m. Motion carried 6-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Council Secretary

Administrative Specialist

Date of Approval